

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 11, 24 to 52, and 65 to 84 without prejudice. The claims are as follows:

1. to 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Original) A printing device for performing recording on a recording medium, the printing device comprising:

a carriage slidably mounted on the printing device in a first lateral direction to scan the recording medium;

a print head mounted on the carriage, the print head having a discharge surface with a first set of discharge nozzles and a second set of discharge nozzles located therein, each set of discharge nozzles for ejecting a different type of ink on the recording medium; and

a recovery mechanism for performing recovery of the print head when the carriage is positioned above the recovery mechanism, the recovery mechanism including a first cap and a second cap to cap the first and second sets of discharge nozzles, respectively, a wiper blade mounted on a wiper base, the wiper base being slidably mounted on the recovery mechanism to wipe the discharge surface of the print head with the wiper blade and to cover the caps when the caps are not capping the print head, and a wiper blade cover mounted on the recovery mechanism to cover the wiper blade when the wiper blade is not wiping the print head.

13. (Original) A printing device according to Claim 12, wherein the wiper base is slidably mounted so as to be movable in a second lateral direction which is perpendicular to the first lateral direction of the carriage.

14. (Original) A printing device according to Claim 12, wherein the wiper base has a top surface which covers and protects the first and second caps from ink ejected from the print head when the wiper base is positioned to cover the caps.

15. (Original) A printing device according to Claim 12, wherein the wiper blade cover has a top surface which covers and protects the wiper blade from ink ejected from the print head when the wiper base is positioned to cover the caps.

16. (Original) A printing device according to Claim 13, wherein the wiper base is moved in the second lateral direction to wipe the print head by a wiper transmission mechanism which is driven by a motor.

17. (Original) A printing device according to 14, wherein the wiper base includes a first prefire area and a second prefire area disposed on the wiper base top surface for receiving ink ejected from the first and second sets of discharge nozzles, respectively, during a prefire recovery operation.

18. (Original) A printing device according to 17, wherein the first and second prefire areas each contain a drain sheet for retaining the received ink.

19. (Original) A printing device according to 17, wherein the first prefire area is located away from the location of the first and second caps, and has an opening for draining the received ink to an area of the printing device located below the wiper base.

20. (Original) A printing device according to 19, wherein the second prefire area contains a drain sheet for retaining the received ink.

21. (Original) A printing device according to 17, wherein the wiper blade is mounted at a position on the wiper base which crosses the first and second prefire areas.

22. (Original) A printing device according to 17, wherein the wiper blade wipes the first and second sets of discharge nozzles during the prefire recovery operation.

23. (Original) A printing device according to 22, wherein each of the first and second sets of discharge nozzles are arranged in a plurality of nozzle sections in the second lateral direction, each nozzle section including a plurality of discharge nozzles,

and wherein, during a prefire recovery operation, each nozzle section of discharge nozzles successively ejects ink and is wiped by the wiper blade as the wiper base moves in the second lateral direction under the print head, the ejected ink from the first and second sets of discharge nozzles being received in the first and second prefire areas, respectively.

24. to 52. (Cancelled).

53. (Original) A method in a printing device which performs recording on a recording medium, the printing device including a carriage slidably mounted on the printing device in a first lateral direction to scan the recording medium, a print head mounted on the carriage, the print head having a discharge surface with a first set of discharge nozzles and a second set of discharge nozzles located therein, each set of discharge nozzles for ejecting a different type of ink on the recording medium, the method comprising the steps of:

moving a wiper base in a recovery mechanism to a cover position in which the wiper base covers a first cap and a second cap provided in the recovery mechanism, the wiper base having a wiper blade mounted thereon, the wiper blade being covered by a wiper blade cover when the wiper base is at the cover position;

ejecting ink from the first and second sets of discharge nozzles while scanning the print head in the first lateral direction to record an image on the recording medium;

moving the print head to a position adjacent to the recovery mechanism; and

moving the wiper base away from the cover position to uncover the first and second caps and the wiper blade for performing one of a capping operation and a wiping operation of the print head.

54. (Original) A method according to Claim 53, wherein the wiper base is slidably mounted so as to be movable in a second lateral direction which is perpendicular to the first lateral direction of the carriage.

55. (Original) A method according to Claim 53, wherein the wiper base has a top surface which covers and protects the first and second caps from ink ejected from the print head when the wiper base is positioned to cover the caps.

56. (Original) A method according to Claim 53, wherein the wiper blade cover has a top surface which covers and protects the wiper blade from ink ejected from the print head when the wiper base is positioned to cover the caps.

57. (Original) A method according to Claim 54, wherein the wiper base is moved in the second lateral direction to wipe the print head by a wiper transmission mechanism which is driven by a motor.

58. (Original) A method according to 55, wherein the wiper base includes a first prefire area and a second prefire area disposed on the wiper base top surface

for receiving ink ejected from the first and second sets of discharge nozzles, respectively, during a prefire recovery operation.

59. (Original) A method according to 58, wherein the first and second prefire areas each contain a drain sheet for retaining the received ink.

60. (Original) A method according to 58, wherein the first prefire area is located away from the location of the first and second caps, and has an opening for draining the received ink to an area of the printing device located below the wiper base.

61. (Original) A method according to 60, wherein the second prefire area contains a drain sheet for retaining the received ink.

62. (Original) A method according to 58, wherein the wiper blade is mounted at a position on the wiper base which crosses the first and second prefire areas.

63. (Original) A method according to 58, wherein the wiper blade wipes the first and second sets of discharge nozzles during the prefire recovery operation.

64. (Original) A method according to 63, wherein each of the first and second sets of discharge nozzles are arranged in a plurality of nozzle sections in the second lateral direction, each nozzle section including a plurality of discharge nozzles, and

wherein, during a prefire recovery operation, each nozzle section of discharge nozzles successively ejects ink and is wiped by the wiper blade as the wiper base moves in the second lateral direction under the print head, the ejected ink from the first and second sets of discharge nozzles being received in the first and second prefire areas, respectively.

65. to 84. (Cancelled).